

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 01645 281302Z

43

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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R 281226Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5928

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 1645

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG PE

SUBJECT: VISIT OF PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER TO EGYPT

1. BY ALMOST ANY STANDARD, AND PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF DENSITY OF EGYPTIAN/PERUVIAN RELATIONSHIP--OR LACK THEREOF-- VISIT TO EGYPT OF PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER GENERAL MIGUEL DE LA FLOR HAS BEEN A RESOUNDING SUCCESS. DE LA FLOR ARRIVED IN CAIRO ON MARCH 24 FOR TALKS WITH EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY AND OTHER OFFICIALS CONCERNING (AS REPORTED BY CAIRO PRESS) BILATERAL TRADE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AND CULTURAL RELATIONS. THROUGHOUT THIS VISIT, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON MARCH 25, AND IN VARIOUS SPEECHES DELIVERED AT CEREMONIAL MEALS, DE LA FLOR EMPHASIZED PERU'S POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT AND SUPPORT FOR ARAB POSITION ON ME, PARTICULARLY FOR PRECEPT OF TOTAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES. THESE POINTS WERE REITERATED IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT VISIT'S END. AT FAHMY'S LUNCHEON, DE LA FLOR SPOKE OF PERUVIAN BLOOD HAVING BEEN SHED IN SINAI, A REFERENCE TO CASUALTIES RECENTLY SUFFERED BY PERUVIAN UNEF CONTINGENT. UNDOUBTEDLY AT PERUVIAN REQUEST, COMMUNIQUE ALSO GAVE SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO LAW OF SEA ISSUES, STATING THAT BOTH EGYPT AND PERU RECOGNIZED THE RIGHTS OF COASTAL STATES "WITHIN ZONES OF NATIONAL JURISDICTION NOT EXCEEDING 200 MILES...".

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 01645 281302Z

2. DE LA FLOR'S VISIT INCLUDED MEETINGS WITH VICE PRESIDENT FAWZI, AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS HATEM AND HEGAZI, AND WAS CULMINATED BY MEETING WITH SADAT ON MARCH 26. PHOTOGRAPH OF THIS MEETING, TO WHICH DE LA FLOR WORE MILITARY UNIFORM, WAS PLACED PROMINENTLY ON FRONT PAGE OF FOLLOWING DAY'S PRESS (USE OF UNIFORM DREW COMMENT FROM FAHMY, WHO REMARKED SOMEWHAT DRILY THAT DE LA FLOR LOOKED AS GOOD IN IT AS HE DID IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES).

3. DE LA FLOR DEPARTED CAIRO ON MARCH 26, HAVING CONCLUDED WHAT HAS BEEN ONE OF THE HIGHEST VISIBILITY VISITS TO EGYPT BY ANY LATIN AMERICAN POLITICAL FIGURE FOR MORE THAN A YEAR. IT IS UNCERTAIN WHAT CONCRETE DEVELOPMENTS WILL RESULT FROM IT. AS DE LA FLOR SUGGESTED DURING HIS PRESS CONFERENCE, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT LEVEL OF BILATERAL TRADE, PARTICULARLY IN RAW MATERIALS AND METALS FROM PERU, MAY INCREASE, AND THAT PERU MAY SEND A FEW TECHNICIANS TO WORK ON EGYPTIAN INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS; AND A BILATERAL CULTURAL ACCORD WAS SIGNED. NEVERTHELESS, IT WOULD APPEAR AT THIS POINT THAT MAJOR RESULT OF VISIT WAS ITS POLITICAL IMPACT AND FACT THAT FOR BRIEF PERIOD EGYPTIAN/PERUVIAN RELATIONSHIP HAS MOVED FROM TEPID TO WARM. AT ITS END, DE LA FLOR INVITED FAHMY TO RECIPROCATE BY VISITING LIMA, TO WHICH FAHMY REPLIED THAT HE WOULD DO SO BUT THAT DE LA FLOR SHOULD NOT FEEL COMPELLED TO WAIT UNTIL THAT HAPPENED BEFORE HE RETURNED TO EGYPT.

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